

HOUSE JOINT RESOLUTION 906

By Parkinson

A RESOLUTION to honor and recognize Pastor Elliot R. Shelton, Sr. and Jeaneen Shelton for their meritorious service to Promise Land Church.

WHEREAS, it is appropriate that the members of this legislative body should honor those individuals who have answered a divine call to the ministry and who have served with dedication, vigor, and enthusiasm to perform God's work for their congregations and their communities; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Elliot R. Shelton, Sr. is one such stalwart servant of the Lord who has faithfully served as the pastor of Promise Land Church in Memphis for twelve years; and

WHEREAS, a native of Memphis, Pastor Shelton quickly developed a passion for the ministry, following in the footsteps of his father, the Reverend Elmer Shelton, Jr.; and

WHEREAS, first majoring in Engineering at the University of Memphis, he felt called to a more spiritual path and changed to a divinity major with the hope of becoming a Sunday school teacher; and

WHEREAS, by the time he completed his Bachelor of Arts degree in Religious Studies from American Baptist College in May of 1996, Pastor Shelton had set his sights on becoming a church leader; and

WHEREAS, he began his career at St. Stephens MBC, serving as assistant to his father and pastor, Reverend Shelton, teaching Wednesday night bible study at Promise Land Church, his future parish, and participating in an array of revivals and youth conferences; and

WHEREAS, for two years, Pastor Shelton led the congregation of New Hope MBC in Helena, Arkansas before reuniting with Promise Land in April of 2000; and

WHEREAS, his tireless efforts to grow and improve the congregation at Promise Land have resulted in the church moving to a new and bigger location, the addition of new disciples

and staff members, and the implementation of a variety of new ministries designed to serve the unique needs of the community; and

WHEREAS, in the twelve years he has served Promise Land, Pastor Shelton has increased the congregation from forty to 800 members, proving just how uplifting his ministry has been for so many people; and

WHEREAS, Pastor Elliot Shelton's success depends greatly on the love, companionship, and support of his wife, Jeaneen, who has graciously undertaken a life of service and Christian stewardship with her husband; and

WHEREAS, Pastor and Mrs. Shelton are inspiring role models to their two sons, Elliot, Jr. and Julian; and

WHEREAS, throughout their estimable careers as religious leaders and humble servants of God, Pastor and Mrs. Shelton have demonstrated the utmost compassion, ability, and integrity, winning the unbridled respect and admiration of the many and diverse members of their congregation at Promise Land Church; now, therefore,

BE IT RESOLVED BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE ONE HUNDRED SEVENTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF TENNESSEE, THE SENATE CONCURRING, that we thank Pastor Elliot R. Shelton, Sr. and Jeaneen Shelton for their meritorious service to the congregants of Promise Land Church and extend to them our best wishes for every future success.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that an appropriate copy of this resolution be prepared for presentation with this final clause omitted from such copy.